



ABPN Board Eligibility and COVID-19

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Dear Program Directors and Program Administrators,

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in questions from program directors related to eligibility for ABPN certification examinations. Our longstanding tradition at the ABPN has been, in general, to follow the lead of the Program Director with respect to whether or not a particular resident has completed the specific training needed for graduation. For example, questions have been raised about whether we would permit senior residents to be pulled from one service (e.g., outpatient) to cover another more acute service (e.g., ER or inpatient) even if that meant that the resident would not meet all training requirements with respect to rotations. Given that there are only about 3 months left in PGY-4, the ABPN will be very flexible with respect to senior residents as long as the Program Director agrees.

The ABPN Directors and I are committed to supporting you and your residents in this challenging time. Our requirements should not affect any decisions you need to make to provide the best personal and public health response to this epidemic, and residents should not be worried about future consequences for their board certification.

If you have additional questions, please reach out to our credentials department at Questions@abpn.com. Someone will get back to you as soon as possible about your specific trainee situations.

Larry R. Faulkner, MD

President and CEO

March 18, 2020